

Good morning/afternoon, Senators,
My name is Katy Hull
I graduated from Kilgore High school in 2001.
I work in an office
I answering the phone and build a data base.
I am a small business owner.
The name of my business is SLUSHFUN.
I could not have done all of this without a lot of support!

I was ALWAYS included in the regular classroom with all my friends.
My parents and The Arc of Texas staff, made sure I got the help I needed in the regular classroom.
I was the only one with Down Syndrome in my classes, from Kindergarten to college.
Regular teachers, special teachers and mostly my friends helped me in school.

In 7th grade, at a meeting called a Transition meeting, I decided I wanted to work in a library.
With the support of my parents and the principal at my schools,
I started helping in my school library
and my Senior year,
I helped at the local University library.

When I went to College I worked in the library there.
Yes, I went to Kilgore College for 2 years and I worked part time in the library.
All my friends were going to college and I wanted to go, too.
I also worked in a restaurant when I was in college.
TRC- Texas Rehabilitation Commission, helped pay for my tuition and support on my job.

After college, I worked in an office filing , copying, shredding, putting packets together.
I received help from a Job support program at Sabine Valley Center.

I finally received HCS - Home & Community Services, after waiting 6 years .
I was then able to move to Austin.
I lived with my sister and she helped me.

My dream had always been to work at the Capitol Library in Austin.
I met with the people who work there and filled out an application,

but they said they did not have any money to hire me.

So, I became an Americore, Vista Volunteer and I worked at United Cerebral Palsy.

Because I was having a hard time finding a full time job,

I had another planning meeting and decided to start a small business.

My business, it is called SLUSHFUN.

I rent Margarita machines for parties.

With a grant from the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities I started my business.

Family and friends help me deliver and set up the machine.

I moved back home, when my sister moved to Houston to go to Law school.

I was able to continue renting my machine, to people I knew at home.

But, I needed help in growing my business.

My dad helped me write a business plan.

I met with our Small business Association and they suggested that I do some advertising.

Debbie Puckette and my Dad, help me write a PASS Plan - Plan to Achieve Self Support with Social Security office.

With the money I have saved,

I have purchased a 2nd machine, and direct mailer advertising.

My business has a DBA and I have a business account.

I could not have done this without my family, my friends and a lot of other support.

My mom and dad were able to make sure I was in regular classes, because that is the best place to be.

All my friends in the regular classroom, kept me thinking I should, do my best in school, go to college and get a job.

And I did that and more!

My future-

I still want to move back to Austin one day, and work at the Library in the Capitol.

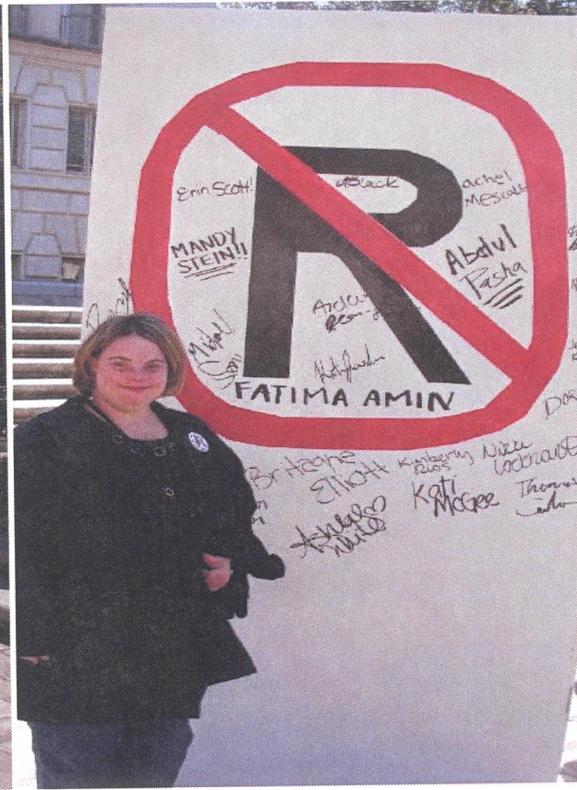
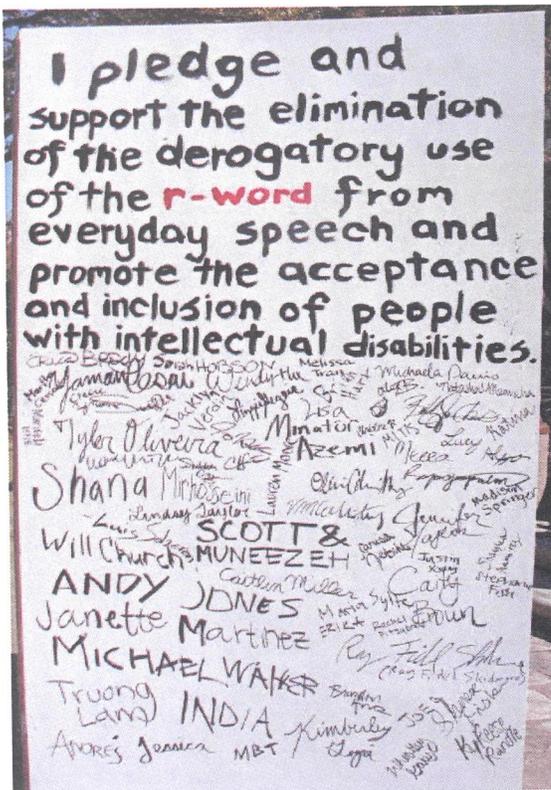
I have always been included.

My education in the regular classroom gave me the support, desire and opportunities to have a job and to own a small business.

I am a tax payer.



WORKING



ADVOCATING

Spread the Word to End the Word



VOLUNTEERING

- The Arc of Texas, Governmental Affairs Committee
- AMBUCS, Too
- Kiwanis
- Pilot Club
- Longview Woman's Democrats



BUSINESS OWNER

Katy Hull, a successful citizen of Texas and the United States